



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

November 21, 2013

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PAUL'S NOTE

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- * Want to get rid of your old medications? Check page 2 for Rx Safe, Smart & Secure
- * The Ward 2 office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Nov. 28 and 29. This also means the cashier window will be closed as well.

Last week, I mentioned that we are renaming Terra del Sol Park after Claire Weeks. I didn't say a lot about her, but I wanted to take the time to tell you a little more about the work she did in our community.

Claire has lived in Terra del Sol for decades, but her neighborhood has only recently been moved into Ward 2. I knew her reputation, but wasn't as familiar with her day-to-day work. I am grateful that her son-in-law, Ken Bertschy, helped me learn a little more about her.

She was born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island and moved to Tucson in 1969. She and her family bought a house in Terra del Sol and they continue to live there to this day. She and her husband Joseph were always active members of the community, and their children each attended Palo Verde High School.

After her husband died of cancer, she became president of the Terra del Sol Neighborhood Association. She served in that role for 18 years. Sadly, her Parkinson's disease has pre-

vented her from continuing in that role.

During her time as president, she's been tireless in trying to improve her neighborhood. She wrote the grants that brought playground equipment and a gazebo to Terra del Sol Park, and arranged for the Palo Verde High School band to perform there for the neighborhood. Since the upgrades that she made possible, weddings, parties and neighborhood events, such as an annual children's Halloween Party, have been held there.

Along the way, she worked with a local bar owner when patrons were causing trouble after hours in the neighborhood, stayed active with both Palo Verde High School and Wheeler Elementary and helped four other neighborhood associations get off the ground. The whole time, her style was to be inclusive and cooperative.

Her son-in-law Ken says that Claire exemplifies the best in citizenship and neighborhood participation. I'm glad we are renaming the park in her honor.

Switching gears, you may remember a few months ago that we got our first numbers from retailers and our independent auditor that showed that 34 million plastic bags were being used by Tucsonans in the three months studied. The second report, covering the three months through October 31, is out and that number is nearly 52 million.

It's quite a jump, and much of that can be attributed to the 44 Tucson Walgreen's locations to the report.

Just a walk down the street on a windy day will tell you that this is way too many of these single-use-and-throw-them-out items. When shopping, ask yourself if you need a plastic bag before the clerk puts your items in one, or bring your own shopping bag.

I've posted the complete report on my council website.

One last note, I attended the FC Tucson match against CD Chivas USA on Friday night. The match was the first held at our new Kino North Stadium

PAUL'S NOTE (CONTINUED)

and was attended by 2414 people. The facility is fantastic and the crowd was amazing. The best part for me was how our local boys won: Sadam Ali, a seventeen year old came on the field with less than ten minutes in the game and scored the winner. Keep in mind that this was against a professional team that includes people that have competed in the World Cup.

Ali, a Somali refugee, starts his final high school soccer season for Rincon High School this week. I'm proud of my fellow Ranger.

Have a great weekend.

RX SAFE, SMART & SECURE

Amistades Inc., 4R Communities Alliance, Luz Southside Coalition and the Community Prevention Coalition of Pima County have teamed up with the Tucson Police Department to offer a safe way to dispose of your expired drugs.

A drop off service is being offered at five Tucson Police Department substations:

- Southside Santa Cruz Substation, 4410 S. Park Ave, at East Fair Street
- Westside Police Service Center, 1310 W. Miracle Mile near North Flowing Wells Road
- Midtown Substation, 1100 S. Alvernon Way at East 22nd Street
- Downtown Main Station, 270 S. Stone Ave. near West Cushing Street
- Eastside Rincon Substation, 9670 E. Golf Links Road near South Harrison Road.

CASA MARIA THANKSGIVING BENEFIT

Hotel Congress, 311 East Congress, is hosting a great night of local music to benefit Tucson's Casa Maria Catholic Worker Community, located in South Tucson. They have been providing food and clothing to the local community in need since 1981.

The benefit starts at 8 pm and will feature local musicians Brian Lopez, The Sand Rubies, Sugar Stains, and Tecnobanda La Picosá.

Admission will be \$7 and food donations will be collected as well.

For more information, go to <http://hotelcongress.com/music/casa-maria-thanksgiving-benefit/>



BEYOND START UP

The City of Tucson has collaborated with the Tucson Hispanic Chamber (THCC) to provide the “Beyond Start Up: Elevate Your Business” program in our area. There are a limited number of seats in the program. The THCC is hosting similar programs in each Ward of the City.

The program will be held Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 9pm at the Ward 2 office, 7575 E Speedway. Orientation will be on December 11, Initial Assessment Workshop will be held on January 8, Concept/Ideas/Tools Workshop will be held on January 15, with the final workshop on February 5. In addition, the program includes one-on-one consulting in English or Spanish with a THCC Business advisor at your place of business.

This program is made possible by an Economic Development Grant by the City of Tucson and has an estimated minimum value of \$2500 per business. Businesses in the program contribute \$199 (allows up to two people to participate) which is due at registration. Encouraged participants are the Business owner(s) and/or General Manager.

If you are confident that your business is poised for growth, we highly encourage you to register today at www.tucsonhispanicchamber.org. If you have questions, please contact the THCC at 520-620-0005.

AFTER SCHOOL MEALS

A new after-school free meal program begins at Freedom Center. The meals will be served from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday for youth ages 18 and under at the Freedom Center through May 2014. The program is sponsored by the USDA Child and Adult Care Food program (CACFP).

A program enrollment form is to be completed to enroll in the program, and the form can be obtained from the Freedom Center, 5000 E. 29th Street. For more information about the meal program contact Anne Krepps, Child Nutrition Programs Manager at akrepps@communityfoodbank.org or call 882-3285.



GRAFFITI

In an ongoing effort to combat the public nuisance of graffiti in our city and neighborhoods, TEP has launched a new tool to assist our customers in reporting graffiti on TEP equipment throughout our service territory. At tep.com, a link has been provided to allow customers to report graffiti in an efficient way by providing the location of the graffiti, nearest cross streets and a picture (if available) of the tagged equipment. Providing a picture greatly enhances the ability to respond quickly with the appropriate materials for safe and proper removal of the graffiti. Once a notice is received, the information goes directly to TEP staff dedicated to abating graffiti.

While TEP will continue to rely on the City for notifying TPD of the graffiti reported to us through the City Transportation Department, they are working to determine an efficient police reporting process for graffiti reports they receive directly through our website.

PARKS INFORMATION

30TH ANNUAL SENIOR OLYMPIC FESTIVAL REGISTRATION: Registration for the 30th Annual Senior Olympic Festival is now open and through December 31, 2013. The event will take place January 14-February 2, 2014, and at various venues throughout the City. Some of the events include; volleyball, cycling, bowling, bridge, racquetball, basketball shoot, pickle ball, archery, golf, tennis, horseshoes, badminton and more. Registration can be done at www.EZEereg.com For complete Senior Olympic Festival information visit www.TucsonSeniorGames.org or contact 791-3244.

UDALL POOL CLOSURE: The Udall pool is closed until March 31 for the winter season. The pool will re-open April 1, 2014. For additional questions, please contact 791-4245.

2014 PROGRAM GUIDE AND CLASS CATALOG: The 2014 Parks and Recreation Spring Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published. The catalog can be picked up at any City recreation facility and it can also be viewed online at www.ezeereg.com Spring classes run January 5-May 10, 2014.

PARKS AND RECREATION DECEMBER MINI SESSION: Tucson Parks and Recreation Leisure Classes is offering a December Mini Session including a variety of fun classes. Registration for the 3-week classes is through November 24, 2013. View the classes offered on page 37 of the Fall Program Guide at www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec For questions or more information on registration or programs contact Registration Services at 791-4877.

SANTA'S CALLING: The Tucson Parks and Recreation presents the Santa's Calling program. Children will have an opportunity to speak with Santa and listen to his elves hard at work. The program is for children ages 4-10 years old. A form is to be completed and sent to Santa's Calling 2013 Attn: Twinkle Toes the Elf, 1575 E 36th Street, Tucson AZ 85713. Forms are to be postmarked by Saturday, November 30. The program will take place Tuesday, December 3, Wednesday, December 4, and Thursday, December 5 from 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.. All children who cannot be reached or if their letter is received after the deadline will receive a letter from Santa. For questions, please call 791-4497.

FOLLOW PARKS AND RECREATION ON FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/TucsonParksandRecreation



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Watershed Management Group presents the Simple Solutions for Sustainable Living Series. To register for any of these events, go to <http://watershedmg.org/2013-presentation-series>.

growing food and native habitat plants.

November 21: Learn to Build Healthy Desert Soils for Productive Landscapes

6:30-7:30 pm

Tucson Jewish Community Center, 3800 E River Rd.

Presenter: Catlow Shipek

Learn to transform "wastes," such as stormwater or tree trimmings, into resources to enhance your soil for

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Remember to like
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals
and Families in Need**

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/
Dance Equipment**

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Monday, December 2. Note that the scheduled meeting for November 26 has been cancelled. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mdocs>

